

Newsletter

March 2026

Update from Headteacher

As we come to the end of a very successful term at Beam, I would like to thank our entire school community for your continued support, energy and commitment.

It has been a term full of achievement and pride. Our pupils have demonstrated confidence, talent and determination across all areas of school life. We are especially proud of the children who represented Barking and Dagenham in the Hi5 competition, showing outstanding teamwork, resilience and sportspersonship.

In addition, we are super proud of the Year 6 boys football team who have won their cup quarter final against a very strong team, we have not seen a team work and fight so hard for each other.

Across the school, there have been so many wonderful moments—from performances and creative work to everyday classroom success—which reflect the high expectations and inclusive culture we are so proud of at Beam.

Following the recent celebration of Eid, we hope all families who observed this special occasion had a joyful and peaceful time together. Eid Mubarak. We now look ahead to Easter, and hope this brings a well-earned opportunity for rest, reflection and time together for all our families.

A very special thank you goes to our PTA, who have been incredible this term. Their dedication in organising events and raising funds has brought so much joy to our pupils and families, and continues to strengthen our school community.

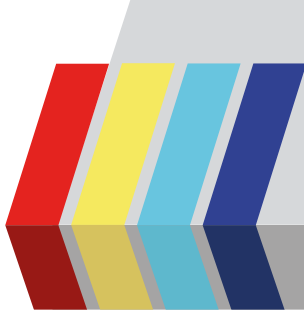
Finally, thank you to our staff, pupils and families for your continued partnership. Together, we are building a school where every child thrives and feels a strong sense of belonging.

We look forward to welcoming you back next term.

Warm regards,

Miss Whittington





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Headteacher's Awards

1DM Murtaza Hussain	4FW Skylar Plucknett	RHH Lexson-Carter Phillips-Meade
1LH Raahim Kiani	4OO Afrad Karim	RLE Parihaan Wali
1ZA Sanaa Girard	4PJ Jasmine Newland	RON Elisha Cox
2FT Auri Bligh	5AW Punnosri Das	NAD Zeke Adebisi
2LS Nailah Ajao	5CR Amaan Miah	NAM Ayzal Umar
2NH Grace Ekeh	5KS Julia Olszewski	NPM Ayla Dajci
3SS Evelin Rata	6DC Ayaan Hayder	Apollo Marius Veselie
3SY Ambra Chifan	6EW Anaya Ali	Atlantis Sehaj Gill
3WA Mubarak Alao	6RT Demi Sanusi	AQ Eliza Basit
Music Zainab Ayorinde	Sport Joanna Onuoha	Art Amrita Degun

Upcoming Dates

- Wednesday 15th April - **NURSERY CLOSED**-Except for All-Day pupils
- Friday 24th April - Pupil Progress Meeting - whole day - Non Pupil Day
- Wednesday 29th April - Thursday 30th April – Y1 Upminster Windmill Trip
- Thursday 30th April - Parent First Aid Workshop
- Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday (May Day)
- Thursday 7th May - **SCHOOL CLOSED** - Polling Day
- Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May - Y6 SATS week
- Children's First Aid Workshops



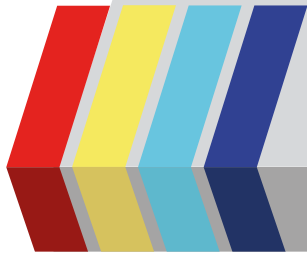
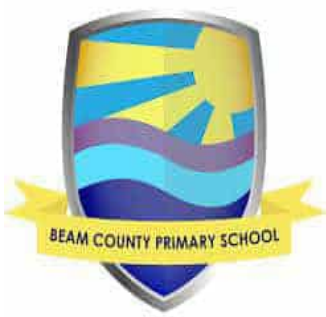
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Updates from class -

Year 6 – Year 6 have had a busy and exciting term. We loved celebrating World Book Day, including a fantastic visit from author Melania Giofrè, where the children enjoyed meeting her and having their books signed.

In DT, pupils proudly designed and built playground models, showing off their growing woodwork skills. In science, we investigated light using torches and experiments, while in literacy we explored different types of Gothic horror and began writing our own suspense stories.

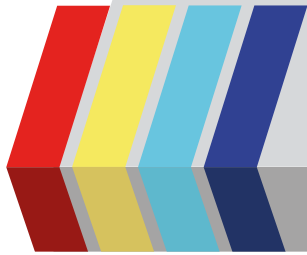
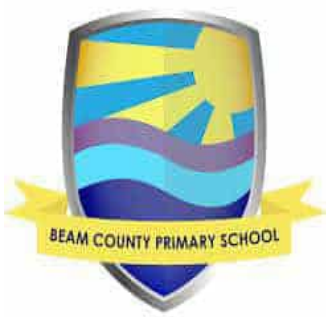
Dodgeball has been a favourite in PE, alongside representing the school in football matches. In computing, pupils solved puzzles using Python, and in reading we have been tackling the challenging but fascinating novel Skellig.

Year 5 – We have had a short but enjoyable and productive term. At the beginning of the term, the children participated in a digital aviation workshop that explored flight-focused career opportunities within London's thriving aviation sector. The pupils asked thoughtful questions and had the opportunity to create posters related to what they had learned.

During British Science Week, the children also took part in an online assembly where they explored engineering and learned more about different career pathways in the field. In literacy, each class has continued studying *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* while developing their understanding of television journalism and reporting. As part of their learning, they will soon take on roles such as anchor, reporter and interviewee while filming their own news-style pieces.

Our pupils have worked incredibly hard this term and we wish them a safe and restful break!





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Updates from class -

Year 4 – The children, as usual, have had a very productive half term with children continuing to develop their mathematical skills, deepening their understanding of division and measuring objects to find the perimeter. In literacy, the children explored the grammatical features of a diary entry and planned their own diary entry based on the book, 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. They also developed their oracy skills throughout all subjects, agreeing, building on and challenging each other's views.

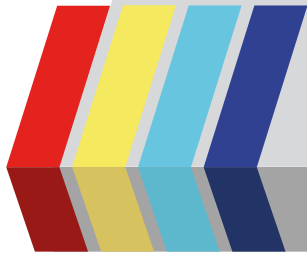
In geography, we learnt about hurricanes and how it forms. We discovered how destructive hurricanes are to the communities they affect. Children got together to research and put together a sequence on how hurricanes form and the impacts they cause.

As part of our science topic, the children investigated how objects change over time. They put both food items and non-food items into plastic bags and left them out over the course of a week and observed the changes at set intervals. The children were amazed to discover how the food items changed over time.

Year 3 – During Spring 2, the Year 3 children again continued to develop their multiplication and related division skills using partitioning,. In literacy, they have been exploring biographies and have been developing their own biographies focusing on the life of Rosa Parks. In reading, we have been reading and discussing The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe.

In RE, they have continued to learn about Judaism and begun to explore Hinduism by discussing the similarities and differences to other faiths, while in science, they have explored forces and magnetism, including contact and non-contact forces. In PSHE, they have continued to learn about safety, as well as some basic First Aid. In geography, they have begun to compared the similarities and differences in human settlements between Ghana and the UK and In history, they have continued to learn about the Stone Age and the social and technological transition into the Bronze Age and Iron Age.





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Updates from class-

Year 2 – This half term in literacy the Year 2 children read two twisted versions of *Jack and the Beanstalk*. They explored how the stories were similar to and different from the original tale, and enjoyed innovating their own magical beans and beanstalks in preparation for writing their own traditional tale twist.

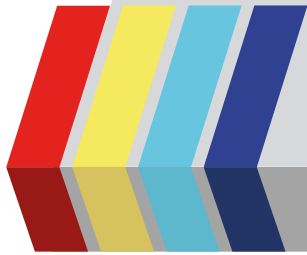
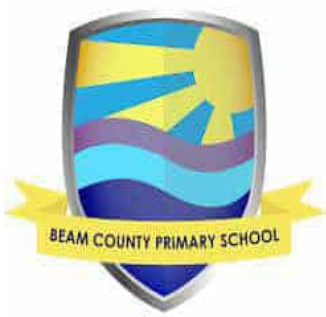
In maths, children explored the structure of multiplication, were introduced to the multiplication symbol, and worked with groups of 2, 5 and 10 while learning about commutativity. In science, they investigated what helps seeds germinate and grow and in history, they learned about Florence Nightingale and her work in the Crimean War. In RE, children explored the meaning of Easter and why it is important to Christians.

During British Science Week, the children explored the theme of curiosity, which sparked their innovation and creativity. They designed and sketched their own inventions, thinking carefully about how their ideas could help people or solve problems. The children showed great imagination and enthusiasm while explaining their designs. As part of the celebration, they also had the exciting opportunity to interview a real-life engineer, asking thoughtful questions and learning more about what engineers do in the real world.

Year 1 – In literacy, inspired by *Handa's Surprise*, we explored a range of fruits, using adjectives to describe their taste and texture. We also practised our punctuation skills and enjoyed creating and innovating our own stories. In maths, we developed our understanding of numbers to 20, including number bonds, and applied this knowledge to solve addition and subtraction problems.

In science, we explored vertebrates, including fish, birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. We identified their key features, learned that they all have a backbone, and presented our findings to the class. In RE, we learned about the concept of belonging and explored the celebration of Raksha Bandhan. As part of this, we made Rakhis for someone special at home. In computing, we were introduced to algorithms by giving clear instructions to make jam sandwiches, with our partners acting like robots. This helped us understand the importance of precise and logical instructions.





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Updates from class-

Reception – This term has been full of curiosity, creativity, and fantastic progress. In literacy, children explored fiction and non-fiction texts about wild animals, learning to write clear sentences using descriptive language. In maths, they developed strong number sense through Mastering Number, especially the “5 and a bit” concept.

In RE, pupils learned about Ramadan and Easter, exploring themes of kindness, reflection, hope, and new beginnings. Science focused on spring and new life, with a highlight being a nature walk in the Eco Area, where children observed seasonal changes. In history, children compared old and new toys, sparking discussions about how play has changed over time.

We are incredibly proud of the children’s enthusiasm, curiosity, and progress this term. They have grown in confidence both academically and socially, making our classroom a joyful place to learn. We look forward to another exciting term ahead.

The Reception Team



Nursery – This half term, Nursery have enjoyed our “Farm” topic. We read Noisy Farm, Rosie’s Walk and Mrs Wishy Washy’s Farm, retelling and acting out the stories. We practised mark making using curved and straight lines and improved our scissor skills. In maths, we sorted objects, explored patterns and learned how shapes fit into spaces.

We matched baby animals to their mothers and learned their names. We identified signs of spring and learned about Easter traditions. We used iPads and cameras to take photos, explored printing, and tested floating boats. At Forest School, we hunted minibeasts and used sticks safely.



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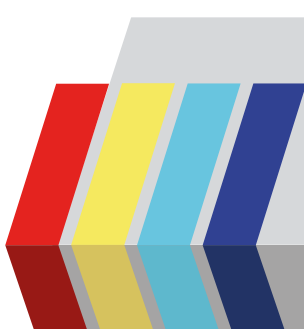
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SOCIAL MEDIA

We are excited to announce that the school has launched new official social media pages to help us share news, celebrate achievements, and keep our community informed about the wonderful things happening in school.

You can now follow us on **TikTok** and **Instagram**, where we will be posting updates, highlights from school events, student successes, reminders, and glimpses into everyday school life.

Our first pupil-led piece of content was posted Friday 13th March

Follow us here:

- TikTok: BeamCountyPrimarySchool
- Instagram: beamcountyprimary

LBBD - Holiday Activities and Food Programmes for Easter 2026 (HAF)

Skills Sports Easter Camp here at **!! Beam County Primary School !!** 30th March to 2nd April (5 to 11years) press here for more details - [BD HAF Eastter A4 2pp FEB26 D1.pdf](#)

HEALTHY FAMILIES FESTIVAL

On Saturday 11th April 2026 at Dagenham Park School The event is designed to be a relaxed and inclusive day for children aged 18 months to 8 years old and their families. Families don't need to stay all day — they can simply drop in whenever it suits them, take part in activities, meet local organisations, and enjoy time together. Press here for more details - [image.png \(1240x1748\)](#)

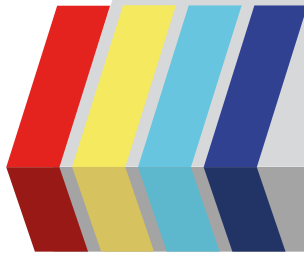
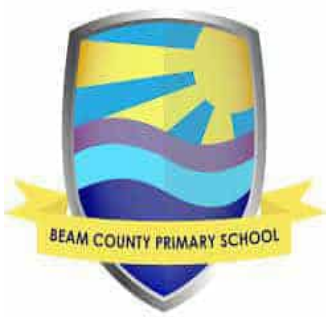
Early Morning Breakfast Club – Starting 23rd February 2026

We are delighted to announce that our new **Early Morning Breakfast Club** will launch on **Monday 23rd February 2026**. The club will run each weekday from **7:00am to 8:30am** and will cost **£10.00 per pupil, per session**.

Initially, this provision will be available to pupils aged **6 years and above**.

Please see below link to register interest [Early Morning Breakfast Club – Fill in form](#)





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World Book Day

We were delighted to celebrate World Book Day on Tuesday 3rd March, a wonderful occasion that inspired a love of reading across the whole school. A highlight of the day was a special visit from author Melania Giofre, who shared her experiences of writing and brought her stories to life for our pupils. Children had the exciting opportunity to meet her and have copies of her book signed, making the day even more memorable. It was a fantastic celebration of books, creativity, and imagination for everyone involved.



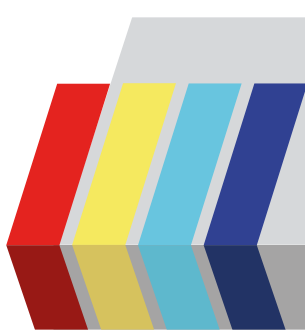
London Youth Games - Sportshall Athletics

Our Year 5 and 6 Sportshall Athletics team recently competed in the London Youth Games Finals at Redbridge Sport Centre. The team performed exceptionally well, finishing 9th overall out of 32 schools – a fantastic achievement and the same impressive position as last year. The pupils demonstrated great determination, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the event, and we are extremely proud of their efforts.

Bikeability

Our Bikeability level 2 club continues to go from strength to strength at Beam with the children riding up to 6 miles!!! The children meet once monthly to spend the afternoon being led on local roads by 2 Bikeability staff members. We hope the skills they learn will allow them to continue riding safely when they leave Beam and maybe even compete the Tour de France!!!





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Parent Support Advisor

Introduction

My name is Diana Huskie, I am here to support children and their families to make the most of educational opportunities and to help with everyday challenges. If you have any worries about your child or home life, please feel free to contact me.

You can visit the School Office to see me or email: dhuskie@beam.bardaglea.org.uk to arrange an appointment.

Family Information Service (LBBD)

Free, confidential advice on:

- Local childcare (nurseries, pre-schools, childminders)
- Childcare funding options
- Children's activities
- Help finding childcare

☎ 020 8227 5395

✉ fis@lbbd.gov.uk

Family Hubs

Support for families with children aged 0–19, including:

- Parenting advice and programmes
- Infant feeding support
- Family activities
- ☎ Family Navigator: Vicci Meribe – 0208 724 8119

Additional Support

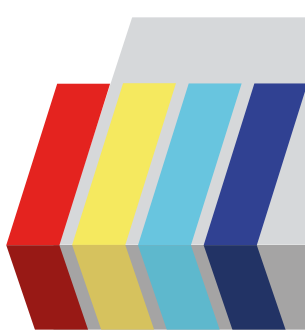
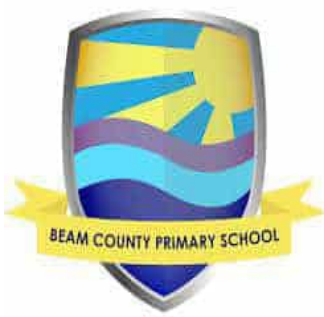
- The Source Warehouse:** Affordable second-hand furniture and white goods

☎ 07868 631073

- Money, debt & foodbanks support:**

www.lbbd.gov.uk/money-and-debt/foodbanks





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Little Recyclers

Last Collection raised £50.85 towards School Funds !!!!

Please continue to help us raise funds for our school and at the same time protect the environment by donating unwanted clothes and other items such as paired shoes/jewellery/bags/belts etc.

Little Recyclers Clothing Bank is on site here at Beam County Primary School, situated to the left of the school office, opposite our breakfast club\after school entrance.

Should you have any pre-loved school uniform that you wish to donate, please continue to send in to our school office.



SENDCO

Supporting Toileting Independence

We recognise that some children with SEND may take longer to become toilet trained; however, SEND alone does not necessarily prevent a child from achieving toileting independence. With consistency and support, most children can make progress.

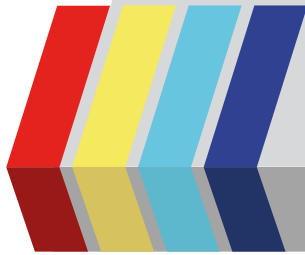
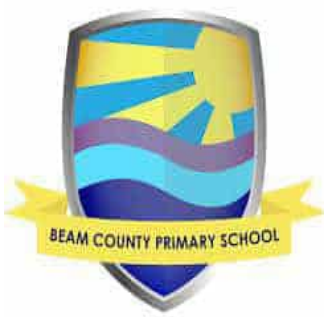
We encourage parents to seek advice where needed. The ERIC website offers helpful guidance: [Children with additional needs - ERIC](#)

Additionally, our school nurse drop in sessions have been available to parents, though significantly under-attended. We have two remaining drop in sessions on **Thursday 30th April** and **Thursday 18th June**, and would encourage families to make use of this valuable service if they need support.

Local Information and support organisations for parents of children with SEND:

- Barking and Dagenham Local Offer: [Barking and Dagenham SEND Local Offer](#)
- The Sycamore Trust: www.sycamoretrust.org.uk
- Carers Centre SA Ltd: www.carerscentre.org.uk
- The Children & Young People Disability (CYPD) Hub: [Children & Young People Disability Hub | London Borough of Barking and Dagenham](#)





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Friends of Beam

The Friends of Beam Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is an organisation that aims to:

- Support the growth and development of children attending the school
- Increase engagement between parents and staff
- Facilitate a sense of belonging and connection with the local community

We plan to achieve this by organising events and activities throughout the school year and, with your support, hope to achieve our aims for our school.

Friends of Beam has existed for many years and, with the help of the school, we now have a whole new team of parents and staff who are very keen to volunteer their time to the PTA, but we want to take this opportunity to say a big **THANK YOU** to all the staff and parents who have previously worked so hard, dedicating their time and resources to our school. **We appreciate you** and we will do our best to continue your good work.

Our first event was the **Someone Special Gift Shop**, which was held just before Mother's Day weekend. Thanks to your support we raised over **£150.00**. After this, we supported the school by selling tickets for its annual **Easter Egg Raffle** and also put together an art competition for the children to design their own Easter Egg.

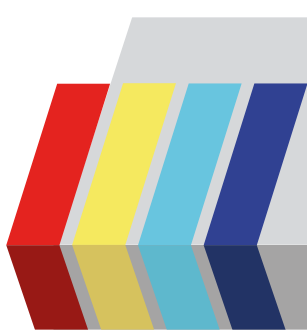
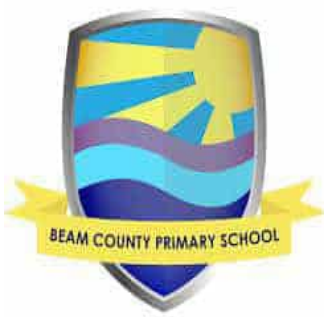
We have lots of plans for the future, so keep an eye out for emails about our events and do get in touch to let us know what you thought of what we've done so far.

We are always looking for more volunteers so, if you'd like to help, please get in touch at friendsofbeam@beam.bardaglea.org.uk. You can also talk to the school office and they will connect you to us.

We look forward to hearing from you soon and thank you for your continued support for all pupils of Beam County Primary School!

The Friends of Beam





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Ready, Respectful, Safe

At Beam, we expect and encourage good behaviour and self-discipline from all pupils to cultivate an environment that promotes emotional development, effective learning and high standards. Through visible consistency, we are restorative in our approach, using a range of methods and strategies to maintain positive relationships. Our three simplified core rules: Ready, Respectful, Safe, ensure that we are consistent in our approach.

You will find our updated Behaviour Policy here: <https://beamcountyprimaryschool.org/policies>

We aim to provide an inclusive, calm, quiet atmosphere in the school and encourage children to move around responsibly. Our expectations of the children can only be realised through the cooperation and support between home and school. Should any difficulties be encountered, we invite parents to work with us to resolve them. Positive behaviour is a collective responsibility within the school. This extends beyond the individual classroom to cover every child and every area of the school and playground.

Attendance

Attendance Expectations

The Government expects pupils to attend school regularly, and schools closely monitor attendance. A child's attendance should be **at least 96%**. When attendance falls below **90%**, this is classed as **Persistent Absence**, which means a child has missed a significant amount of learning time.

Did you know?

- 90% attendance** means your child is missing **about half a day of school every week**.
- 10 days absent in a year** equals **two weeks of missed learning**.
- Being **10 minutes late every day** adds up to **almost a full week of lost learning over the school year**.

Medical appointments

Parents will be expected to make medical or dental appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. Where this is not possible, a copy of the appointment letter or text must be shown to the school office.





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School Catering

REMINDER: Parents are now required to pre-select meals in advance using our online system, **ParentPay**. (Please note: NO payment is needed to order school dinners). If you are unable to access ParentPay please contact the front office in order to obtain the login details The link below explains how to select a meal for your child using ParentPay.

<https://parent-support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/articles/6265244826257--VIDEO-How-to-book-a-meal>

The 3 week menu's are now available for you on the schools website.
[School Meals - Beam County Primary School - Creating a Lifelong Love of Learning](#)

We have reviewed our safe practices as we move over to new, delicious menus in addition to a different way of ordering school lunches. Lanyards are to be worn in the lunch hall for children with allergies to indicate allergens that children are to avoid. Those with a health care plan (HCP) are wearing their lanyard daily, they have been fantastic with independently putting on their lanyard and then returning it when they have finished their lunch. We are in the process of contacting all parents with children with an allergy logged on our system to ascertain if a lanyard is needed.

MENU WEEK 1 - WHEN WE RETURN TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY 13 APRIL

Contact Information

IMPORTANT - If you have changed any contact or address details please inform the school by email at office@beam.bardaglea.org.uk

Term Dates

MONDAY 13TH APRIL 2026 - FRIDAY 22ND MAY 2026

